



Mars Borough

Agenda Meeting Minutes: **July 20, 2020**

**As of January 2020, visitors/speakers are limited to:
5 minutes during Council Meetings and 3 minutes during Agenda Meetings.
Council reserves the right to extend these time limits as they see fit.**

7:00 - Call to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE (x indicates present)		
x	Rob Bost	Council Vice President Administration, HR
x	Chris Clutter	Council Pro Tem Public Safety
x	Mike Fleming	Council President
	Rick Foster	Streets
x	Bill Lambert	Water
x	Brad Price	Budget, Finance
x	Julie Schultheis	Parks & Rec, Celebrations
x	Gregg Hartung	Mayor

EMPLOYEE / PROVIDER ATTENDANCE (x indicates present)		
	Bonnie Forsythe	Secretary / Treasurer
x	Patricia Madaffari	Assistant Secretary
x	Ed Dorsey	Public Works Foreman
	[vacant]	Code Enforcement
	Beau Sneddon	Officer in Charge
	Renea Pomeroy	Tax Collector
	Chris Reese	Solicitor

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:	
Item	Status
Code Enforcement Officer	Clutter has three companies that Butler County recommended, and she is looking into. Interviews to be scheduled.
Borough-owned Property Evaluations	Industrial Appraisal to be done in 2021. Schultheis mentioned evaluating borough-owned properties. Potential for land-swap of property near Borough Building and on Church Street. Fleming stated this swap would be beneficial to the Borough because it would give direct access to a length of stream needed to do MS4 work.
Rental Property Inspections	No change, no additional information. Fleming stated he was against it. Schultheis stated the discussion started because of a PSAB webinar that had been available and she believes it would be beneficial to get something in place to compliment revitalization efforts.
Open Burning Ban (requested by Adams Fire)	Proposed 14-day ban because of dry conditions. To be reviewed at next meeting.
Story Hike (see email from Jennifer Ford)	Library wants to put laminated pages from a story along Grand Avenue. Hartung mentioned the potential to use the boxes installed at various places in town, including Garfield Park and Library.
Mayor's Report: Update on LCB Call	LCB Conference Call to discuss liquor license possibilities. Laws were changed, so there is no automatic license after making a town "wet." Potential for a Revitalization License.
Mayor's Report: Update on Economic Impact Study for Discover Center	Should be finished by Aspire by the end of July 2020.
Mayor's Report: Update on sign on Route 228 for Downtown businesses	Hartung spoke to St. Johns. They would like the sign that is existing to be re-used. The next step is to talk to PennDOT and they referred to Adams Township sign regulations. Adams Township is willing to work with the Borough to make it happen. Fleming suggesting having a rendering completed that would highlight St. Johns, but then incorporate something about Mars (and potentially businesses).

Mayor's Report: 2020 Zoom Video Conference with NASA	On Friday, July 24, 2020 at 6:30 PM there will be a Zoom Meeting call with Dr. Jim Green to discuss traveling to Mars and Living on Mars.		
Mayor's Report: Support letter for work on SR228	Hartung was approached by Mark Gordon from Butler County to send a letter of support for the work being done.		
Paving Bid Package	Lambert reported the PennDot rep was in and he measured the parking lot behind buildings on Grand Avenue, section of Clay Avenue, section of E. Railroad Avenue, and alley from Cherry Street to Clay Avenue. Parking lot is estimated at \$51,000. The estimate is only for binder, not for a top wearing coat. Top coat would go on next year. Lambert stated that in the parking lot the dumpsters should be on concrete pads rather than sitting directly on the blacktop. Fleming recommended paving the parking lot and the section of Clay Avenue. Dorsey explained that Liquid Fuels money can be used for materials for the patching that Public Works is doing, as well as for the rental of the hotbox.		
Street Opening Permit	Dorsey explained that an application was submitted that would require cutting into Lincoln Avenue which was repaved in 2018. After talking to the gas company's rep, he determined it was an old application. A new application will be submitted that will only cut into sidewalks.		
MIU4 Chair Lift / Addendum to Lease for use of 1 st Floor	To be discussed in executive.		
Remodeling of Education Building	Fleming mentioned the need for the civil engineering to get the site with topography. Price suggested getting a third quote from a company he is familiar with.		
Differentiation of two monthly meetings	Bost explained that agenda for Agenda Meetings will be different in an effort to move things along. The goal is to keep Agenda Meetings shorter, if possible. Fleming suggested making an effort to have the public appear at Council Meetings, again, to keep Agenda Meetings shorter.		
Zoning Hearing Board & Planning Commission Vacancies	There is one vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board and two vacancies on the Planning Commission. Council discussed ways to find new members and potential recruits. Fleming stated he would be willing to temporarily fill a seat if Council members are permitted to do so.		
Garfield Park	Fleming spoke to a resident on Garfield who is building a garage. He was asked if the trusses they were using could be dropped off at Garfield Park due to lack of space. Letter to be written.		
Motion			
Motion to prohibit open burning in Mars Borough for 14 days.	Lambert	Clutter	Carried
Motion to send a letter of support for federal funds for continued work on improvements to SR228.	Price	Bost	Carried
Motion to approve Civil Engineering by Rhea Engineering at the quoted cost of \$2,000.00.	Schultheis	Bost	Carried
Motion to accommodate MIU4 on the first floor of Education Building, until such a time as direct access is made to basement or until end of lease	Bost	Price	Carried

CLOSING ACTIONS				
Motion		First	Second	Action
To go into Executive Session	Time: 8:07 PM	Bost	Clutter	Carried
To come out of Executive Session	Time: 9:15 PM	Clutter	Lambert	Carried
Items discussed in Executive Session: Personnel Issues, Contracts				
To Adjourn		Clutter	Bost	Carried

REPORTS FILED	
Report	Date

Submitted by